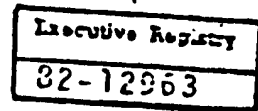


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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

1982

CONFIDENTIAL

November 8, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
THE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

SUBJECT: Comments on Intelligence Matters

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The President has asked me to reaffirm the longstanding policy that we will not comment on intelligence matters. Efforts to clarify public reports of intelligence information, no matter how well intended, generally prove to be counterproductive. The resultant cycle can lead to the compromise of extremely sensitive information and grave damage to our national security. Exception to this policy can be granted only by the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs based on the recommendation of the DCI.

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The President is determined that all officials of this government understand this policy clearly and comply with it fully. Please take appropriate steps to brief your subordinates and subordinate elements.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT:

William P. Clark

